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JOB SERVICE

Michigan Employment Security Commission

JOBLESS RATE INCREASES SLIGHTLY DURING NOVEMBER

Michigan's unemployment rate inched upward by two-tenths of a percentage point as the jobless rate moved from 6.6 percent in October to 6.8 percent in November. The rate increase represents 10,000 additional individuals out of work, as total state residents seeking employment climbed to 315,000. The rise in joblessness was primarily a result of unsuccessful holiday jobseekers entering the labor force. Total employment in November registered a significant gain as the number of employed state residents advanced by 46,000 to reach 4,337,000. Additionally, the civilian labor force peaked at 4,652,000, a gain of 56,000. Compared with a year ago, employment in Michigan has jumped by 134,000, while the size of the labor force has increased by 114,000. In November 1987, the total number of persons out of work amounted to 335,000, representing an unemployment rate of 7.4 percent.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES EXPAND

Michigan's nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased as industry jobs rose to 3,848,000 in November. Employment opportunities advanced by approximately 39,000 as gains were centered in both the goods producing and service producing sectors of the economy. Total employment in the goods producing industries inched upward by 1,000 primarily as a result of minor gains in durable goods. Service producing employment jumped by 39,000 to 2,749,000 in November, as educational facilities returned to full strength. Public sector positions rose by 38,000 as a result. Since November 1987, industry employment in Michigan has increased by 71,000 positions or 1.9 percent. Approximately 3,000 goods producing jobs have been lost throughout the year, while service producing employment advanced by 74,000.